

Algona High School

Edited by: Kari Simpson and Katie Green

May 6, 2011

We got him!

Tyler Mawdsley

Ten years after the tragic September 11 attacks, the U.S. caught him. On May 1st, the news lit up with the story that Al Qaeda figurehead and mastermind of 9/11, Osama Bin Laden, had been killed. Experts discussed how they believed it had happened with the information they had been given, waiting until President Obama made an official statement. In his speech at about 10:35 p.m., Obama confirmed that Bin Laden was indeed dead.

The President went on to explain that due to a tip-off the U.S. had received

late last year, the CIA had located Osama hiding in a compound in Abbottabad, Pakistan. A small Navy SEALs unit of 40 infiltrated the compound. The unit asked for Bin Laden's surrender, but he resisted and a firefight occurred. Bin Laden and three other Al Qaeda members were shot during the fight. He was buried at sea within a few hours. Only one civilian hostage was killed, and three more were wounded. There were no U.S. troop casualties.

America's reaction to the news was contagious.

Cameras on every news station showed many kinds of people dancing and chanting, "USA! USA! USA!" in the streets of Washington, D.C. and New York. Thousands of U.S. citizens celebrated at home with friends and family. Skeptics and experts commented on what the fallout could be for terrorist groups, but the country as a whole would not let the celebrations be cut short by any political debates on that night. Finally, everyone can all be glad that the victims of 9/11 and their families were avenged.

The \$25,000,000 reward for Osama's bounty that the soldiers receive should be a small token of the gratitude our great servicemen and women are owed. "God bless the troops, and God bless America!" said senior & National Guard member Brandon Gifford.



Fast Five

Janelle Wittenberg

Almost everyone has seen at least one of the *Fast and Furious* movies, considering there are now five. In *Fast Five*, Dominik and his whole group/crew get in trouble again. They are in trouble with the law and they are stuck between a drug lord and a federal agent. The crew has to do one last thing before they can gain their freedom. But to gain it, they have to talk to the one businessman who wants them dead.

Fast Five is 130 min-

utes long and is full of suspense and a lot of fast cars. It is rated PG-13. Vin Diesel plays Dominik, the top person in the crew. Paul Walker plays in this film also as Brian O' Connor. Even though he doesn't play a major part, Ludacris also stars in it. Kari Simpson quotes, "It makes me want to drive fast. It was a very good movie."

Sweets for Ethan

Brittany Vaske

On Friday, April 29, Mrs. Bormann's Food and Nutrition classes hosted a bake sale in the commons. The goal of the bake sale was to raise money for a 3rd grade student suffering from cancer. Ethan Fairbanks recently found out his cancer diagnosis is back; therefore, AHS students wanted to help raise money for him and his family. The amount of money raised for Ethan

was \$454.71.

Different sweets found at the bake sale were either made by the Food and Nutrition classes or were donated by others. Treats included brownies, cookies, bars, scotcheroos, cupcakes, puppy chow, and chex mix. Senior Carly Sansone quotes about the bake sale, "It felt really good to contribute to Ethan. I also heart puppy chow!"

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The time is now "Giving back"

Clarissa Laubenthal

Seniors, the time for your final weeks of high school is here! Commencement invitations are being sent. Graduation parties are being prepared for. The days of walking through the halls of AHS are almost over!

Seniors' last day of regular class is Friday, May 13th. Senior semester tests are on Monday, May 18, with odd period classes, 1,3,5,7, and 9. Tuesday is all

Band tripical

Rachel Weiland

The Algona band students traveled to Chicago, Illinois, on April 28 through May 1st. The tour director was Mike Luttenberger.

The students reported AHS at 4 a.m. They stopped at COE College and had a band clinic with Dr. Bill Carson, the director of bands for COE. After lunch they departed for Schaumburg; the drive was 5 ½ hours.

The next day they went to the Field Museum of Natural History. They then went to the Art Institute of Chicago. After that they walked to Buckingham Fountain in Grant Park,

of the even period classes, 2,4,6, and 8.

Wednesday, May 18th, will be a busy day for seniors. First is breakfast, provided by the faculty, at 7:30. The Senior Award Recognition Banquet is to follow. After the banquet is graduation rehearsal.

Commencement is Sunday, May 22, 2011, at 2 p.m. in the high school gym. **CONGRATULATIONS** class of 2011! You did it!

which is the home of one of the world's largest fountains. Later in the night they enjoyed a performance of the Blue Man Group.

The next day they went to the Museum of Science and Industry. Then they transferred to the Adler Planetarium, which has one of the most extensive collections of historic astronomic devices in the world. They then went to the Navy Pier, Willis Tower, and Skydeck Chicago. Breanna Johnson states, "The band trip was fantastic and I learned a lot."

Brittany Vaske

On Wednesday, May 4, 2011, you might have seen many high school students with garbage bags walking around town. Both Algona High School and Garrigan High School joined together to clean up the community. The Algona Chamber of Commerce sponsored this event with a goal of "giving back."

Prom, the yearbook, and booster clubs are only able to happen with the help from local businesses. The Bears and Bulldogs gave their thanks by walking around town, and even going out to Smith Lake and Call Park, picking up littered trash found in streets, alleys, and ditches.

The morning began with an assembly put on by Stacy Besch, Vicki Mallory, Mayor Kueck, and the Sheriff's Department. The assembly took place to pump the students up for this event and get them excited about giving back to the community and why this

is so important. The Sheriff's Department also talked about hazardous and toxic items that could possibly be stumbled upon and how the items should be handled.

Following the assembly, students were assigned designated areas in town to clean up. After a couple of hours cleaning, the students were then treated with a grilled hot dog lunch provided by Hy-Vee. Members of the Algona Chamber helped serve the hungry students. Liana Gaedke said, "It was a great day to help our community." Tina Pearson adds, "Not only was it a good chance to help the community, but it was a lot of fun."



Right: Liz Burtis helps clean up Central Park.

Below: Spear's group takes a break from cleaning to play at Central Park.



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Eagles, birdies, & more

John Etler

The boys' golf team has been very busy this last week. Many of the golfers are tired after having five meets in six days. They have stayed strong through their meets and played well throughout.

Meet locations include a home meet on Saturday the 25th of April, St. Edmonds on the 26th, Eagle Grove on the 28th, Clear Lake on the 29th, Storm Lake on the 30th, Spencer on May 2nd, and a home meet hosted by Garrigan on the 3rd. These are the last regular season meets before Conference on Monday.

Chris Grether received medalist honors at the home meet, shooting a 77 with an eagle in the mix. Blair Bradley followed in second place shooting a 78. The team placed 4th out of 5 despite Grether & Bradley's stellar performances.

At St. Ed's, Grether shot a 39 followed by Bradley and Sam Lipps with 44's. They team finished in second.

At Eagle Grove they

ended with a third place overall finish. Grether had another first place finish on the team with a 39, followed this time by Lipps with a 41.

Blair took his turn at the Clear Lake meet, shooting a 46 with Grether and Lipps following with 48's. Overall AHS came in second in a close contest.

At the Storm Lake tournament, Lipps and Bradley tied for first on the team with 82's. Grether came in a close third, shooting an 84. The team placed 6th out of 11 teams.

At the Spencer meet, Grether pulled out another team first, shooting a 37. Bradley came in second once again with a 43. The team came home from Spencer with a 3rd place finish.

At the Garrigan meet, Blair Bradley shot a personal best 35 for one under par to lead the team. Chris Grether once again came in second, shooting a 40. The team finished the Garrigan meet in 2nd, only losing by one stroke to Garrigan.

Girls go golf crazy!!

Mackenzie Siefken

The girls had two meets last week that they participated in.

On April 29th, the girls had a meet at Clear Lake. Results from that meet were looking good for the girl golfers. Taking the top spot for the Bulldogs was sophomore Heather Ziesman with a 49, followed by AnnaLise Manske with 54, Catherine Edgerton with 55, Melinda Schultze with 59, Abby Foertsch with 61, and Meredith Politte with a 66. The Bulldogs as a team had a score of 217.

The golfers attending Bishop Garrigan's golf meet held at Spring Valley and came in 4th place out of 6 as a team. Leading scorers for the Bulldogs were once again sophomore Heather Ziesman with a score of 103, AnnaLise Manske, Catherine Edgerton, and Melinda Schultze finished with a 108, and Abby Foertsch and Meredith Politte shot a 113.

The girls participated in the Emmetsburg triangular with Spencer

and Emmetsburg. The girls finished second overall with a team score of 207 points. Top scorers for the Bulldogs were Heather Ziesman with a 47, AnnaLise Manske with 48, and Melinda Schultze with 50. Sophomore, Heather Ziesman, was the Varsity Runner-Up as well.

Bulldogs took second at the Hampton meet. There were four teams at the meet: Garrigan, Hampton, Humboldt, and the Bulldogs. Top finishers for the Dogs were AnnaLise Manske with 47 and Catherine Edgerton and Abby Foertsch with a score of 53. The Dogs had a total of 207 team points.

The girls had a very busy week this week with five meets. The girls still have their Webster City meet on May 5th and finally the Spencer meet on May 7th. Then Saturday, May 9th, is the girls' Conference meet that will be held at Spring Valley. Districts will follow and then State.

Drake!

Cane Arrowwood

This past 28th-30th, the Algona track program sent down seven events to the Drake Relays. The boys sent down the 4x1, 4x8, medley, and two mile. From the girls' team the 4x1, disc, and shot all traveled down.

Mackenzie Siefken threw the disc on Thursday 120'11" placing 9th. Also that day, Ryan McMahon ran the

two-mile at 9:45.

On Friday, Mackenzie threw the shot put 36'8" placing 15th. Next in line was the medley, putting together a 3:35, placing 14th. The girls' 4x1 ran their best time of the year, running sub 52, placing higher than they were thinking. The boys' 4x1 ran at 6:10, running an average time of 45.37, plac-

ing 57th. The final event of Algona's Drake experience would come to an end with the 4x8 on Saturday. The 4x8 ran a 8:10, placing 14th.

Overall the teams were very happy with their times. Drake is a great experience and a fun place to be!

Right: AnnaLise Manske sinks her putt.

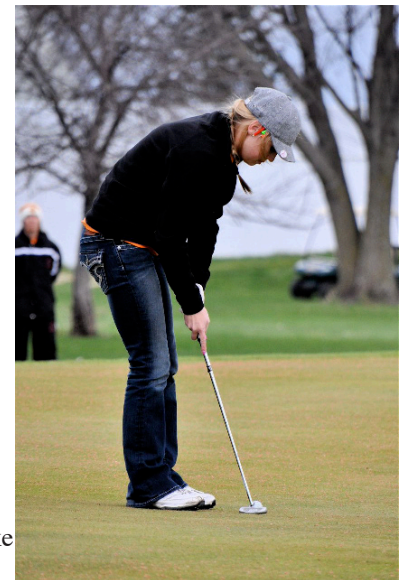


Photo by Jim Gale

Rachy

Carly Sansone

Rachel Weiland is a senior at Algona High School. Some of her hobbies include four-wheeling, shopping, going out with her friends, being with her family, working out, working, and sleeping. She enjoys spending time with elders in her free time.

Rachel will be graduating on May 22nd and will be attending DMACC in the fall of 2011. She will be studying general education for her first year in college, just to see what she's interested in. She wants to study something in the medical field but isn't quite sure yet. She will be rooming at Iowa State University with Carly Sansone and will attend ISU her second year in college.

To prepare for college, Rachel Weiland will be working a lot at the Alonga Manor Care Center as a CNA to save money. This summer, she will be studying to become a Pharmacy Technician for her job in college. Rachel Weiland states, "I can't wait to go to college and room with Carly. It's going to be great!"



Running for gold!

John Krause

The boys have had a very successful start to their season. They won the Estherville meet without the select few that ran at the Drake Relays. The shuttle hurdle took home the gold along with the high jump, jumped by Luke Arrowood, shot put, thrown by Richard Baxter, 400 hurdles ran by Alex Wiseman, 4x400 meter relay, and placed very well in the other races. John Etler says, "It is very nice to win the meet while missing key assets to the team."

The boys had an outstanding home meet. They won by over 100 points. They won close to every race. The only races that the bulldogs lost were the shuttle hurdle, high hurdles and

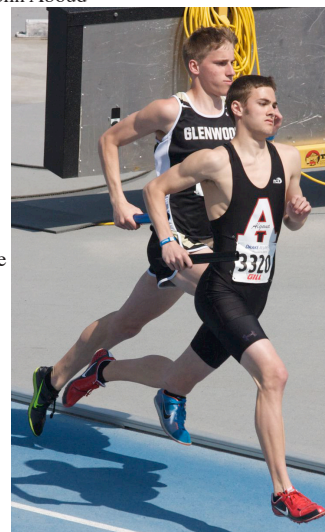
the open 4. This was a very impressive performance by the track team.

They are looking forward to the rest of their season after running in their home meet. They have the Conference meet on Monday, May 9, that is also a home meet. They will then go run in the District meet in Waverly Thursday, May 12, where they will try to qualify as many guys as possible for State.

Photo by Jim Gale



Photo by John Aboud



Left: Sam Curtis races over the hurdles.

Rain, rain, go away!

Connor Barber

On Monday, April 25th, the girls' track team competed at the Humboldt Wildcat Relays. It rained during the entire meet and after the 4x200 ran, the meet was cancelled. Some first place finishes were Jade Simpson in high jump, Mackenzie Siefken in shot put and discus, and the 4x800 team of Tangy Wiseman, Allana Lauck, Sarah Bierle, and Paige Yi. Senior, Brittany Vaske said, "Although it was bad weather, I was happy with how our team competed." The girls unofficially received first placed.

Friday, April 29th, was an unscheduled Spencer meet. The team was missing many girls due to the band trip and Drake, but had a good night, ending up 2nd overall in 2A. Top finishes for the Bulldogs were 1st place 4x800 team of Allana Lauck, Katie Green, Sarah Bierle, and Tangy Wiseman, 2nd

place shuttle hurdle team of Reba Zeller, Sonny Curtis, Ali Grein, and Jacey Thompson, 1st and 2nd places in the 1500 meter run to Allana Lauck and Katie Connick, and 2nd place 4x100 team of Sierra Wegener, Jacey Thompson, Ali Grein, and Courtney Groen. Senior, Katie Green said, "I was happy it didn't rain during my races."

Tuesday, May 3rd, the girls competed at Spirit Lake and ended up first place overall. Some top place finishes were the 1st place distance medley relay of Chyan Metzger, Ali Grein, Jade Simpson, and Allana Lauck, 1st place to Brandee Hockett in the 100 meter hurdles, and 1st and 2nd places to Allana Lauck and Tangy Wiseman in the 1500 meter run.

The next meets are Conference in Humboldt on Monday, May 9th, and Districts next Friday at Waverly-Shell Rock on the 13th.

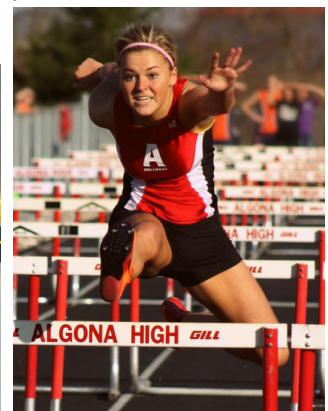


Photo by Connor Barber

Above: Brandee Hockett soars over the hurdles.

Left: Johnny Aboud runs at Drake.